

BENNETT
Appl. No. 09/701,299
August 23, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows.

1. (Original) A vaccine for the therapeutic or prophylactic immunisation against Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) virus, said vaccine comprising a vector which includes a sequence which encodes an attenuated form of said virus which is capable of producing a protective immune response, wherein the said sequence is such that the amino acid at position 7 in the E2 protein of VEE is lysine.

2. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 1 wherein the attenuated form of said virus comprises a derivative of the TC-83 construct.

3. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 2 wherein the vector comprises a virus vector.

4. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 3 wherein the virus is selected from an attenuated virus.

5. (Previously Presented) A vaccine according to claim 3 wherein the virus is selected from vaccinia, adenovirus, HSV, BCG or BCC.

6. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 5 which comprises an attenuated vaccinia virus.

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7. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 6, wherein expression of the said attenuated VEE virus is under the control of a synthetic 7.5K vaccinia promoter which has been subject to mutation which increases the level of VEE virus protein production as compared to the wild-type 7.5K promoter.

8. (Currently Amended) A vaccine according to claim 7 wherein the said 7.5K promoter comprises the a-sequence ~~selected from~~

TAAAAATTGAAAATACATTCTAATTTATTGCAC (SEQ ID No 2)

or

~~TAAAAATTGAAAATATATTCTAATTTATTGCAC (SEQ ID No 3).~~

9. (Previously Presented) A vaccine according to claim 1 which comprises a vector which includes a nucleotide sequence which encodes a further immunogenic peptide, and is able to express said sequence when administered to a mammal.

10. (Previously Presented) A vaccine according to claim 1 which further comprises a cytokine or an active fragment or variant thereof, or a vector which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a cytokine or an active fragment or variant thereof.

11. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 10 which comprises a vector which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a cytokine or an active fragment or variant thereof.

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12. (Previously Presented) A vaccine according to claim 10 wherein the cytokine is an interleukin.

13. (Original) A vaccine according to claim 10 wherein the interleukin is selected from human IL-2 or human IL-6.

Claim 14. (Canceled)

~~14~~ 15. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vaccine as defined in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

~~15~~ 16. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a protective immune response against VEE virus in a mammal, which method comprises administering to said mammal, a vaccine according to claim 1.

~~16~~ 17. (Original) A method according to claim ~~16~~¹⁵ wherein the mammal is either a human or a horse.

Claim 18. (Canceled)